

HAMPTON VA

NEWS RELEASE

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Council to consider rental inspection ordinance

Oct. 21, 2013 – Hampton City Council is scheduled to consider whether to adopt a proposed rental inspection ordinance that could cover eight districts within the city. The measure is part of a continuing effort to address safety and citizen security and welfare.

The ordinance came before Council last month, and a public hearing drew close to two dozen speakers, including property owners who opposed the measure and neighborhood leaders who supported it. Council members decided to delay the vote to give city staff more time to hear the concerns and input from both groups.

Several changes have been made to the ordinance in response to that input. The initial measure proposed a fee for the original inspection; that has been removed. Property owners will now incur a fee only if there is a required re-inspection after major violations are found. Also, the program would now be phased in over a longer time period. One additional neighborhood was added to the proposal as well. The Neighborhood Commission voted to endorse the proposal.

The proposed rental districts are: Hampton Club and Magruder Heights; Holly Homes and Fordham; North Phoebus; Old North Hampton and Langley; Olde Hampton; Shell Road Corridor and South Wythe; South Phoebus; and Sussex. ([See map](#))

The rental inspection ordinance is the main item on a special evening meeting Wednesday, Oct. 23 that begins at 6:30 p.m. It follows the 5:30 p.m. Spotlight on Citizens recognition program and the public comment time.

Earlier that day, council will hold a 1 p.m. work session that includes an update on the Safe & Clean Campaign and the proposed rental ordinance. The bulk of the meeting is expected to focus on continuing a strategic discussion about housing and neighborhood revitalization.

All meetings will take place in City Council Chambers on the 8th floor of City Hall, 22 Lincoln St., and televised live on the city channel (47 on Cox and 23 on Fios) as well as streamed on the web at <http://www.hampton.gov/citycouncil>. Additional details about agenda items can also be found at <http://www.hampton.gov/citycouncil>.

Map shows proposed rental inspection districts:



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